

DRAFT DESK STATEMENT – USACE’s West Lake Landfill Isolation Barrier Alternatives
Assessment

3/11/15

- EPA Region 7 has received a report from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) that provides assessments of four alternatives for construction of an isolation barrier at the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site in Bridgeton, Mo.
- The USACE report provides the Corps’ detailed technical analysis of various advantages and disadvantages associated with four alternatives: no action, the installation of a solid wall barrier along two different alignments, and the installation of a heat extraction system.
- The USACE’s assessments of advantages and disadvantages were identified with respect to factors that directly or indirectly impact on-site workers, the surrounding community, the intended function of the barrier, and/or the time required to design and install the barrier.
- Those factors include: excavation volume, odor potential, bird hazard potential, radioactively contaminated material (RIM) remaining south of the barrier, potential for future subsurface smoldering event (SSE) north of the barrier, on-site worker safety, off-site worker safety, off-site waste transportation and disposal, duration of design, duration of construction, impact to existing infrastructure, and technical feasibility.
- EPA Region 7 is currently reviewing the Corps’ assessments of the four alternatives in order to determine how best to proceed with future work at the site. EPA and USACE are working together under an interagency agreement established in (DATE), through which the Corps provides its project management and engineering expertise, along with other resources, to EPA.
- When EPA’s review and consideration of the Corps’ assessments is complete, EPA will provide its comments to the Corps’, the potentially responsible parties at the site, and the community.
- A copy of the USACE’s report is available online at (INSERT LINK/URL HERE)
- Parallel to its work in reviewing alternatives for the isolation barrier project, EPA is continuing to proceed with work toward evaluation of overall remedy alternatives for the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site. That work will lead to development of a revised Record of Decision (ROD) for the site, which will outline the remedy alternatives and recommend one alternative as the preferred remedy. The revised ROD will be presented to the public and become subject to a public comment period and possible revision before it becomes final.